

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-32. Please add new Claims 33-64.

Claim Listing

33. (New) A method of broadcasting advisories, the method comprising:
determining weather conditions in a monitored region;
electronically monitoring a shared radio channel for inter-party voice
communications among pilots; and
detecting a transmission on the radio channel after an extended period of no
transmissions on the radio channel; and
in response to detecting the transmission, broadcasting a weather advisory over
the radio channel.
34. (New) A method as in claim 33 further comprising:
detecting activity on the radio channel from another source; and
delaying a pop-up broadcast on the radio channel a predetermined amount of time.
35. (New) A method as in claim 33 further comprising:
disabling pop-up broadcasts on the radio channel when no conversations are
detected for an extended duration of time.
36. (New) A method as in claim 33, wherein weather advisories are periodically broadcasted
on the radio channel to notify at least one pilot of weather conditions.
37. (New) A method as in claim 36 further comprising:
adaptively modifying a time duration between periodic broadcasts on the radio
channel in response to a level of activity on the radio channel.
38. (New) A method as in claim 33 further comprising:

detecting that no other sources are transmitting on the shared radio channel before broadcasting a message.

39. (New) A method as in claim 33, wherein the weather advisory is broadcasted without being prompted by a party communicating on the radio channel.

40. (New) A method of broadcasting information, the method comprising:
monitoring a radio channel assigned to inter-party voice communications for activity;
detecting a transmission on the radio channel after an extended period of no transmissions on the radio channel; and
automatically broadcasting a message over the radio channel to notify a pilot that an electronic advisory system broadcasting the message also broadcasts weather advisories.

41. (New) A method as in claim 40, wherein the transmission is generated by a pilot entering an airport and making a blind transmission to other potential air traffic.

42. (New) A method as in claim 40 further comprising:
waiting a predetermined length of time after detecting a conversation on the radio channel before transmitting the message.

43. (New) A method as in claim 40 further comprising:
detecting that no other sources are transmitting on the radio channel before broadcasting the message.

44. (New) A method as in claim 40, wherein the detected transmission is a pilot entering a vicinity of an airport.

45. (New) A method of broadcasting information, the method comprising:

monitoring a shared radio channel for a predetermined protocol indicative of a password, the radio channel supporting inter-party voice communications;

detecting that a password is successfully received over the shared radio channel;

and

activating an electronic monitoring system to enter a mode depending on the received password.

46. (New) A method as in claim 45, wherein the predetermined protocol is a sequence of clicks of a microphone.

47. (New) A method as in claim 45 further comprising:
enabling an operator to reconfigure the electronic monitoring system after receiving a password.

48. (New) A method as in claim 47 further comprising:
after activating a reconfiguration mode, enabling an operator to select among multiple reconfiguration options.

49. (New) A method as in claim 45 further comprising:
reconfiguring the electronic monitoring system by transmitting a predetermined protocol over the radio channel.

50. (New) A method as in claim 45 further comprising:
enabling an operator to toggle between two modes of system operation.

51. (New) A method as in claim 45 further comprising:
transmitting a predetermined protocol to inhibit pop-up broadcasts from the electronic monitoring system.

52. (New) A method of broadcasting advisories, the method comprising:

determining weather conditions of an airport;

identifying a preferred runway of the airport for landing an airplane based on the weather conditions;

monitoring a shared radio channel supporting inter-party voice communications for a predetermined protocol indicating a pilot's request for an advisory; and

broadcasting an advisory over the shared radio channel suggesting a runway of the airport on which to land.

53. (New) A method as in claim 52 further comprising:

suggesting a new runway to land if it would be unsafe to land on the preferred runway.

54. (New) A method as in claim 53, wherein the new runway is selected for landing based on weather conditions in a vicinity of a corresponding airport.

55. (New) A method as in claim 52, wherein the preferred runway is determined at least in part based on a level of traffic on the radio channel.

56. (New) A method as in claim 52, wherein the preferred runway is determined based upon a moving average of wind direction at the airport.

57. (New) A method of tracking information, the method comprising:

electronically monitoring a shared radio channel for a predetermined protocol indicating a pilot's request for an advisory, the radio channel supporting inter-party voice communication among pilots;

classifying broadcasts from other sources detected on the radio channel as one of multiple types of events; and

logging the events in a database.

58. (New) A method as in claim 57 further comprising:

determining a duration of an event and storing them in the database.

59. (New) A method as in claim 58, wherein at least one broadcast from the other sources is classified as a conversation.
60. (New) A method as in claim 57 further comprising:
classifying a broadcast as a transient, click or conversation.
61. (New) A method as in claim 57 further comprising:
determining weather conditions in a monitored region; and
generating a weather advisory based on the weather conditions.
62. (New) A method of generating advisories, the method comprising:
determining weather conditions in a monitored region;
electronically monitoring a shared radio channel for activity, the radio channel supporting inter-party voice communication among pilots;
detecting broadcasts from multiple sources; and
automatically broadcasting a weather advisory based on weather conditions in the monitored region over the shared radio channel without being prompted by a request for a weather advisory.
63. (New) A method comprising:
electronically monitoring a shared radio channel for activity, the radio channel supporting inter-party voice communication among pilots;
automatically broadcasting messages over the shared radio channel without being prompted by a pilot sharing the radio channel; and
discontinuing automatic broadcasts on the radio channel when no activity is detected for an extended duration of time.

64. (New) A method as in claim 63, wherein the messages are periodically broadcasted over the shared channel depending on a level of activity on the radio channel.